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Docket No. GIL-100XCD1
Serial No. 10/827,216Remarks

Claim 21 is currently pending in this application and before the Examiner for consideration.

Claim 21 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) over George. George describes a lighting system for a theater aisle that is placed on the aisle-side of a theater seat. The system is designed to provide directed illumination to the theater aisle while not disturbing the theater patrons or theater performers. A housing supports a series of LEDs spaced apart on a printed circuit card. The housing supports the LEDs to direct their light downwardly and outwardly. Each LED on the card has a collimating lens to gather and intensify the light from that LED. A light shaping lens placed in front of the collimating lenses directs the collimated light to the aisle floor.

The method of the subject invention uses a primary lens to collimate and intensify the light from each LED and then uses a moveable zoom lens to further alter the beam path. The moveable zoom lens can be slid nearer the primary lens to diffuse the light beam allowing the beam to illuminate a greater area. Alternatively, the primary lens can be moved away from the primary lens further focusing the beam. The zoom lens of the subject invention moves relative to the primary lens. The Office Action states the method of the subject invention is inherent in view of George. Applicant notes however George does not describe a moveable zoom lens. George does explain that the distance (d) between the LED's on the circuit card is preferably ½ inch (col. 3, lines 17-19) but he does not describe a moveable lens. In fact, if the shaping lens of George was moveable it would allow anyone to change the light's direction perhaps causing the light to interfere with the theater production. The shaping lens of George is designed and positioned to direct the light of a series of LEDs to the floor of a theater aisle. It is not necessary or desirable that this lens move relative to the collimating lens. The cited reference does not describe the subject method. In view of the foregoing and the amendments to the claim, applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection based on this reference.

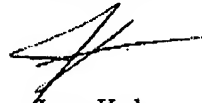
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In view of the foregoing amendments, the applicant believes that the claim is now in condition for allowance and such action is respectfully requested.

Applicant invites the Examiner to call the undersigned if clarification is needed on any of this response, or if the Examiner believes a telephone interview would expedite the prosecution of the subject application to completion.

Respectfully submitted,



Jean Kyle
Patent Attorney
Registration No. 36, 987
Phone No.: (406) 375-1317
Address : P.O. Box 2274
Hamilton, MT 59840-4274